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SUBJECT: Technical Schools/Availability of Soviet and
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1. While in Europe I visited five of the Scandinavian technical schools, hoping to obtain information and ideas regarding engineering curriculum. I was, however, not too successful since almost everyone was away on vacation. The following schools are listed in accordance with their research facilities, the best first. Comments as to enrollment and curriculum are included where available.
2. Kungliga Tekniska Högskolan, Stockholm, Sweden

Research facilities: The research facilities at the Royal Institute of Technology are excellent. I would say that they are superior to those of any US university. The faculty is superior to that of any US school and the volume of research being carried on is greater. Research is sponsored both by the state and private industry. I was told that equipment and materials are readily available whenever needed. The institute operates both paper and plastic manufacturing plants - I believe both on an experimental and commercial basis. I did not obtain any specific information about the present research projects, but work is being done in all the fields of engineering and there seemed to be an emphasis on electronics. It seemed strange to me but my guide, the chairman of the department of civil engineering, called each building and laboratory requesting permission to show me through. I do not know whether this was for security reasons or simply a courtesy call.

Curriculum: The curriculum at the institute is the standard four year engineering curriculum and does not differ much from that of US schools.

Enrollment: The institute expects eight thousand undergraduate students this academic year. / Universities of the World Outside the USA 1950 reports two thousand students in 1947. / Two thousand of these students will be enrolled in education while the rest will be taking mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, chemical engineering, civil engineering, mining engineering, industrial engineering or architecture.

Summary: The excellent research facilities and faculty make this one of the world's best engineering schools. The plant seemed somewhat small to handle the eight thousand students, but this was not mentioned by my guide.

3. Technische Hogeschool te Delft, Delft, The Netherlands

Research facilities: The research facilities at the Technical College at Delft do not compare with those at Stockholm, but they seemed to be good. I did not have an opportunity to examine the school but was told that they are doing very high grade work.

Curriculum: The engineering curriculum calls for a minimum of five years' study. The average student usually completes his work in six or seven years. The program is very complete giving the students a solid foundation in the physical sciences. In my opinion the Technical College at Delft probably turns out the best and most well rounded engineers in the world.

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Enrollment: The enrollment is expected to be 5,500 students this year. The breakdown is as follows:

1,000 --- Electrical Engineering
1,000 --- Civil Engineering and Architecture
1,200 --- Mechanical Engineering
2,300 --- Naval Architecture, Aeronautical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Applied Physics and Mining Engineering

4. Chalmers Tekniska Hogskola, Goteborg, Sweden

Research Facilities: The research facilities are very good in most fields and excellent in marine architecture. At present a new electronics building is under construction. There is a lot of activity in electronics here. It is hard to compare Chalmers and Delft since I did not see much, but I would judge that the institute at Delft is generally better equipped.

Curriculum: Standard four year course. Excellent marine architecture department.

Enrollment: They expect 1,130 undergraduates. The breakdown is as follows:

250 ---Mechanical Engineering
320 ---Electrical Engineering
270 ---Civil Engineering
109 ---Chemical Engineering
100 ---Architecture
81 ---Marine Architecture

5. Den Polytekniske Laereanstalt, Copenhagen, Denmark

There did not seem to be any research activity to speak of. They expect a freshman class of four hundred this fall (1953).

6. Norges Tekniske Hogskole, Trondheim, Norway

The laboratories do not compare with those of the other schools. Both the faculty and facilities appeared inferior.

7. I made it a point to question every engineer and scientist I met about the availability of Soviet and Satellite technical journals. All of the replies were about the same. They are receiving many journals and technical magazines but the contents are of little or no value. The majority of the articles are old and the material is generally dated even though it appears in current publications. It was the consensus of opinion that a rigid censorship law is in force and only run of the mill papers are allowed outside the Soviet Orbit.

8. The majority of the people I questioned were worried about the lack of knowledge of USSR science. Everyone seemed to feel that there are a great number of excellent scientists in the USSR and the level of Soviet science is much higher than is indicated by the journals now being received.

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